E. Defense Technical Information Center

The Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) is a major component of the Defense Department's Scientific and Technical Information Program because it maintains data on R&D programs conducted by the Military Departments and Defense Agencies. It contributes to the management and conduct of Defense research, development, and acquisition efforts by providing access to and transfer of scientific, technical, and management information for DoD personnel, DoD contractors, and potential contractors, and other U.S. Government agency personnel and their contractors.

Support to Defense Science and Technology Program Management

As part of its mission, DTIC is directed by DoD Instruction 3200.14 (E7.2.4) to "provide information services which utilize the appropriate information technologies to acquire, analyze and disseminate information to support oversight and management functions and to improve overall Department of Defense management." DTIC staff members work with client organizations within DoD to assess and define information gathering, analysis and dissemination requirements, and then meet these requirements using information science and information technology techniques.

A change to DoDI 3200.14, which implements the DoD Scientific and Technical Information Program (STIP), was issued on June 28, 2001. The change replaced the DoD Technical Effort and Management System (TEAMS) with the series of prescribed S&T planning, programming, and budgeting documents used to manage the DOD RDT&E program. These include the Joint Warfighter S&T Plan, the Defense Technology Objectives, the Defense Technology Area Plans, and the Research and Development Descriptive Summaries. Through the development, coordination, and use of these documents, the Defense Reliance process of program reviews, coordination of investment decisions, and assessment of program results promotes an environment of timely and cost-effective RDT&E management and facilitates the elimination of unnecessary duplication of effort.

DTIC in conjunction with the OSD (C3I) Office of Security policy is sponsoring development of a training guide for marking DoD documents. This includes guidance on the full range of markings including security classification, technical document markings using DoD Distribution Statements, Privacy Act statements, etc. This material will be available as printed matter and online.

DOD Technical Reports

In Fiscal Year 2001, DTIC supplied 178,016 output products directly to the non-government sector of the Defense Community. In addition, DTIC supplied 10,366 technical reports to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), the Federal government's focal point for redistribution of unclassified unlimited technical information to the public.

Portions of the technical report collection are also available on the Internet through DTIC's Scientific and Technical Information Network (STINET). Secure STINET, restricted to qualified, registered members of the Defense Community, provides encrypted transmission of citations and downloadable text of hundreds of thousands of documents, including unclassified, limited distribution reports. Public STINET, available to anyone, contains citations to unclassified, unlimited technical reports, as well as the full text of many thousands of releasable documents.

In Fiscal Year 2001, there were 157,955 external accesses of Secure STINET, and 116,029 searches of the secure system, yielding 53,523 megabytes of information. There were 5,452,548 external access of Public STINET, and 523,264 searches of the unrestricted site. Public STINET delivered 3,963,112 megabytes during the Fiscal Year, serving an average of 5,726 users per week. Owing to regulatory restrictions on collecting data about visitors to public Web sites, DTIC is unable to analyze the composition of this group.

Registration for Access to DOD Technical Information

At the end of Fiscal Year 2001, there were a total of 5,202 registered users of DTIC. Of this total, 2,013 represented non-governmental industrial organizations, and 911 were educational organizations and institutions. The number of registered users is less than reported in FY 2000, owing to DTIC's commitment to the Defense Community rather than to users with only a tenuous business relationship to the DOD. The information needs of these customers can be served adequately by NTIS and by DTIC's Public STINET service.

DTIC facilitates awareness of technology through its registration program by targeting prospective participants in the DOD Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. Of the non-government industrial organizations registered with DTIC in FY 2001, 346 were registered in the SBIR Program.

Defense Technology Transfer Information System (DTTIS)

DTIC operates and maintains DTTIS on behalf of the DOD Technology Transfer (T2) Program office. As of December 31, 2001, DTTIS contained project information on 4,634 DoD Technology Transfer Activities, including 2,293 active Cooperative Research and Development Transfer Agreements (CRADAs) and 156 active Patent License Agreements. Approximately 100 Technology Transfer professionals are registered to use the DTTIS secure World Wide Web site to view and analyze T2 data. FY 2001 input into the DTTIS included 674 new records and 2039 modifications.

Independent Research and Development (IR&D or IRAD) database

DTIC maintains a database with project description and financial information reflecting Independent Research and Development efforts conducted by Defense contractors. In 2001, the database received over 2,350 project descriptions reflecting almost 2.7 billion dollars in 2001 IR&D investment. It is estimated that this reflects well over 80% of the cost recoverable independent research and development efforts performed by defense

contractors. The information in the database is proprietary and disseminated to over 1100 registered U.S. government personnel via a secure, DTIC-hosted, scientific and technical information World Wide Web site. Also in 2001, DTIC accomplished many its implementation tasks under the DOD IR&D Action Plan which brought additional value for IR&D database users and visibility to the IR&D Program.

Internet/World Wide Web (WWW)

The DoD maintains its leadership in deploying innovative Information Technology (IT) solutions to improve information access and availability. In its development and maintenance of more than 90 DoD Web information systems, the DTIC utilizes leading-edge technologies to create and maintain applications that collect and distribute technology transition information in the most timely and accessible manner.

The DTIC support for technology transition is exemplified by the Virtual Technology Exposition (VTE). This Web site provides access to current information concerning the DoD's most advanced technology research activities to the Department and its academic and industrial partners. Through easily accessed descriptions of recent research advances, the VTE offers the acquisition community greater visibility of emerging technologies. This format allows program managers to become more familiar with the technical resources available to them, and thus more effective in transitioning appropriate technologies into their specific weapon systems programs. In addition, the VTE can also be utilized to identify new collaborative opportunities with partners that possess specific expertise, experience in unique technologies or who have common program objectives. A wide array of program categories is included in the VTE, as well as other sources of published information related to research in these areas. Information is organized in categories for easy access by the acquisition, requirements, and science and technology communities. The overarching purpose of facilitating this information transfer and relationship establishment is to create improved processes that will result in reduced cycle time and development/production costs.

The VTE currently offers information on high level DoD projects, manufacturing and technology projects, and NASA inventions. The VTE continues to expand, providing users with a broad view of innovative technologies throughout the federal government. The site currently contains only unclassified information and is open registered users within the DoD research community and other government agencies.